

## Message Text

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53

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-02 H-02 SY-05 EB-07

PRS-01 PA-01 USIE-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

INRE-00 DODE-00 EURE-00 /042 W

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O R 071535Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7792

INFO US MISSION NATO BRUSSELS 2055

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, GR (BASSEN, DENNIS GARTH)

SUBJECT: PRESS COVERAGE

REF: ATHENS, 1836 AND PREVIOUS

1. FIRST PRESS COVERAGE OF ARREST CASE APPEARED TODAY IN  
AFTERNOON EDITIONS OF TA NEA AND ESTIA. SUBJECT'S NAME NOT  
GIVEN AND STORIES CONSIDERABLY DISTORTED.

2. TA NEA REPORTS IN SO-CALLED EXCLUSIVE NEWS ITEM THAT  
AN AMERICAN OFFICER OF UNSPECIFIED RANK ARRESTED BY GREEK  
AUTHORITIES OUTSIDE MILITARY INSTALLATIONS IN AGHIA PARASKEVI  
LAST WEEK FOR TAKING PHOTOGRAPHS FROM A DISTANCE. CAMERAS  
AND OTHER ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT FOUND ON HIS PERSON CONFISCATED.

3. ARTICLE CONTINUES THAT ARRESTED OFFICER HAD BEEN UNDER SUSPICION  
AND SHADOWED DUE PROLONGED PRESENCE IN AREA OF SDAM (MILITARY  
COMMAND OF EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN). ARRESTED BEING QUESTIONED  
BY SECURITY SERVICES, BUT CONTENDS HE WAS ONLY TAKING  
TOURIST PHOTOGRAPHS. ARTICLE CONTINUES THAT ABSOLUTE SECRECY  
BEING MAINTAINED BY AUTHORITIES, WHO CLAIM THEY HAVE  
NO KNOWLEDGE OF EVENT. ARTICLE SPECULATES THAT ARREST  
CASE BEING EXAMINED TOGETHER WITH CASE OF ANOTHER ALIEN WHO  
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WAS TAKING PHOTOGRAPHS LAST JULY OF SHIPS DEPARTING PIRAEUS

AND PERAMA AFTER THE TURKISH INVASION OF CYPRUS.

4. ESTIA REPEATS SUBSTANCE PARA 2 AND REFERS TO SIMILAR INCIDENT IN NICOSIA AFTER WHICH FOUR AMCITS ARRESTED FOR PHOTOGRAPHING NATIONAL GUARD OUTPOSTS, LEADING TO THE DISCLOSURE OF THE STATIONING OF Y-2 ESPIONAGE PLANES ON CYPRUS.

5. USIS PRESS OFFICER RELEASED STORY TO MILITARY REPORTER OF ELEFTHEROS KOSMOS TODAY INCLUDING BASSEN'S NAME, EMPLOYER, AND FACT HE WORKING ON NATO PROJECT FOR HELLENIC NAVY. REPORTER STATED MINISTER OF DEFENSE AVEROFF WOULD BE QUESTIONED THIS EVENING RE CASE.

STEARN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975ATHENS01884  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750080-0727  
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**Line Count:** 75  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 1836  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESS COVERAGE  
**TAGS:** CASC, GR, (BASSEN, DENNIS GARTH)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006